



25 Years of Occupational Scientific Diving at RBINS

Cruises organised by OSD team in the Belgian Offshore North Sea

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The Institute's main operational area is the Belgian North Sea.

Many projects required the support of the occupational scientific dive team. From 2008 onward, most cruises were conducted within the Belgian energy production zone.

Few platforms have been used by the diving team, including the former RV *Belgica* and the new vessel from 2022 onward, RV *Zeeleeuw*, replaced by RV *Simon Stevin*, both operated by VLIZ and many vessels of opportunity, *Stream*, *Aquatrot*, *Aquafty* both latter from OMS services Oostende, *GeOXYZ 10*, *Divestar*, the *Zeetiger* from VLOT and the *Ephyra*.

From 2001 to date, about half of the planned cruises have not sailed due to weather-related conditions and, at times, mechanical failures.

Altogether, the team could operate a little less than 800 dives, accounting for more than 4500 MD (Man Dive). We will discuss the few incidents we have faced over the last 25 years of operations.